

MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH MARCH 2023 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM

10630 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Bunning
Councillor Reader Councillor Keidan
Councillor Crisp Councillor Melton
Councillor Harris District Councillor Atterwill
District Councillor Duffield

3 members of the public

10631 Accepted Apologies: County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

10632 Declarations of interest – All councillors (except Councillor Bunning) declared an interest in The Swan Public House, Councillor Reader declared an interest in matters relating to the play area, Councillor Bunning and Councillor Melton in relation to the Affordable Housing Scheme.

10633 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 7th February – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6th February 2023 were confirmed as a correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

10634 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – None

The meeting was opening to the public at 7:03pm.

10635 A resident enquired whether parish council meetings would revert back to Monday evenings. It was agreed that meetings would continue on Tuesdays.

10636 A resident advised that NCC had cleared the groups around the village but the ditches were not cleared and are now around 2 feet higher than the groups. The pot holes around The Green were also highlighted.

That being all the meeting resumed at 7:10pm.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10637 Reporting of Highway Matters – A large pot hole was reported on Litcham Road on the corner past Longham Lane junction. Clerk to report together with the groups and pot holes on Bilney Road and Longham Lane.

10638 To discuss NCC Grass Cutting Agreement – The agreement was circulated to all councillors and all agreed for it to be signed and returned. Public liability insurance documents were received from the contractor showing public liability of £5,000,000 which forms part of the agreement.

10639 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – The scheme is progressing and a planning application should be submitted within the next couple of months. Hastoe provided an example of the letting criteria although this created in consultation with the parish council. The criteria should be fair for the community.

10640 Community Car Scheme Update – There were 709 miles travelled this month. The scheme is in desperate need of new drivers as this month some journeys could not be catered for. It was suggested that Anne put an article in the News and Views detailing the average journeys and mileage together with details of the number of residents helped last year. Anyone interested can either contact Anne Maskell or the clerk for more details. The car scheme funding agreement was received from Breckland. There is currently £378 of funding remaining. It was agreed by all councillors to keep the funding rate at £1,500. Clerk to complete the funding form and return to Breckland.

10641 To provide an update on internet banking – Nothing to report.

10642 Update on the work list for Norfolk Woods and Hedges – One item remaining which is being dealt with.

10643 Update on the playing field funding project – Clerks is obtaining quotes and has several funding pots to look into.

- 10644 Update on Elmham Surgery – Councillor Keidan met with the practice manager and passed on the positive feedback received. The phone appointment service is working well and the surgery has a full compliment of GPs. There is a new system in the pharmacy which closes between 12pm-2pm so prescriptions can be made up uninterrupted. There are plans to introduce an email service in the future. Councillor Keidan will meet again in May.
- 10645 To discuss the pub and car parking – Another no parking sign was agreed to be sited on the Litcham Road end of The Green following cars parking up on the verge. Some leaflets have been left on cars who are parking in inappropriate places.
- 10646 Update on Gressenhall Fete Committee dates – Coronation celebrations will take place on 6th May, Annual Fete 3rd June and Christmas Light Switch On 2nd December. A discussion took place as to whether the Parish Council will purchase a commemorative gift for the children in the village. Clerk to look at available items and find out how many children in the village.
- 10647 To discuss the Annual Play Inspection Report – There are no changes to the previous year's report. Any medium risk items will be dealt with within the play area project. Norfolk Games and Frames will complete any minor items.
- 10648 To confirm dates for upcoming elections – The elections are due to take place on Thursday 4th May. There will be a vacancy on the parish council due to the resignation of Councillor Harris. Anyone wishing to stand on the parish council can request a nomination pack from the Clerk. Nominations packs are available on the parish council website or from Breckland Council and will need to be filed with Breckland Council by Tuesday 4th April.
- 10649 To discuss NCC free tree packs – There are no tree packs available at the moment.
- 10650 To discuss planning applications –
- 72 Bittering Street, - Proposed single storey extension and garage conversion to sides of property - All councillors agreed that there were no objections to this application. Clerk to monitor any concerns before responding to Breckland planning.
 - Rosedale, 100 Bittering Street, NR20 4EQ - Proposed Rear Extension to replace existing Conservatory, Porch to Front Elevation to replace existing and new Double Garage to front. Solar PV panels to the South East and South West Elevations and existing access increased in width (Householder) – All councillors agreed that there were no objections to this application. Clerk to monitor any concerns before responding to Breckland planning.
- 10650 Report from District Councillor Atterwill – Due to the Purdah period, Councillor Atterwill will not be attending parish council meetings until after the elections. He thanked the parish council and residents for making him feel so welcome and wished councillors luck in the elections. Councillors thanked Councillor Atterwill for all his support and advice over the last four years and too, wished him well in the elections.
- 10651 County Councillor Kiddle–Morris – Councillor Kiddle-Morris did not attend due to illness. No report.
- 10652 To confirm payments for March: Clerk salary and expenses - £318.40, HMR&C - £77.00, Gressenhall Community Car scheme - £86.02, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £88.63, David Bracey - £120.00.
- 10653 Councillor Crisp proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and all councillors present agreed.
- 10654 Reports from councillors – The new vicar, Andrea Woods, was welcomed to the village with a service on Sunday.
- 10655 Councillor Harris' resignation was formally accepted. Councillors thanked him for his service and wished him well with his house move.
- 10656 Correspondence – A thank you card was received from Gressenhall PCC for the donation to assist with grass cutting. A thank you card was also received from Ann Haverson for the flowers received at the last meeting.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 7:50pm. The next Ordinary Parish meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th April 2023 @ 7:00pm.

Signed:

Date:

2023

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